



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913  
PH (517) 373.6960 | FAX (517) 373.0897  
[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/jelinek/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/jelinek/)

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Contact: Sen. Ron Jelinek  
1-866-305-2121

## **Local Michigan Works! Agency Awarded Grant**

LANSING—State Sen. Ron Jelinek (R-Three Oaks) announced today that the Berrien-Cass-Van Buren Michigan Works! agency has been awarded a \$175,613 Food Assistance Employment and Training grant by the Michigan Department of Career Development (MDCD).

“I consider this a boost and opportunity for citizens of these counties,” said Jelinek. “It’s a way for them to continue to remain eligible for work and be as independent as possible.”

The MDCD awarded \$4,864,153 in Food Assistance Employment and Training grants to 24 Michigan Works! agencies. The funding will be used to help adults ages 18-50, without dependents, and able to work, to find employment in order to retain their food stamp eligibility and eventually become independent.

The Food Assistance Employment and Training Program is administered by 24 locally governed Michigan Works! agencies and Workforce Development Boards statewide.

The Michigan Department of Career Development is the state government agency charged with providing the skilled workforce Michigan needs to enhance and maintain its economy. To this end, the state’s new career and training development agency is working with employers, K-12 schools, community colleges, and local Workforce Development Boards to develop a comprehensive career development system. For more information about the Michigan Department of Career Development, visit the department’s web site at [www.michigan.gov/mdcd](http://www.michigan.gov/mdcd) or call 1-866-MY-GOAL, (voice/TTY).